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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/687,773	10/20/2003	Kevin J. Weaver	117523	9591
25944	7590	03/03/2005		
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			EXAMINER EDGAR, RICHARD A	
			ART UNIT 3745	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 03/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/687,773	WEAVER, KEVIN J.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Richard Edgar	3745	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 October 2003 under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b).
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 02 April 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/20/2003.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-2 and 4-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,494,404 issued to Furseth et al.

Furseth et al. show a guide vane comprising a main body 40 and a mounting base 46, the mounting base 46 being provided with formations (edges of grooves 70) which engage with cooperating formations 72, 80, 82 provided on the compressor 22, wherein at least part of the mounting base 46 is airfoil shaped (see Fig. 6) and at least part of the mounting base 46 projects outwardly beyond a surface of the main body only on one side of the vane (see Figs. 2 and 6).

An entire side of the main body 40 and mounting base 46 is airfoil shaped (see Fig. 6).

The surface of the mounting base 46 adjacent the main body 40 forms an obtuse angle with the main body (see Figs. 6 and 11).

The mounting base 46 is integrally formed with the main body 40 (see col. 2, line 55).

The surface of the main body 40 opposite to the side from which the mounting base 46 projects is continuous with a side of the mounting base (see Figs. 2 and 6).

The surface of the main body 40 opposite to the side from which the mounting base 46 projects and an adjacent surface of the mounting base 46 have a substantially continuous profile (see Figs. 2 and 6).

The vane forms part of a gas turbine engine (col. 1, line 7).

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over United States Patent No. 5,494,404 issued to Furseth et al.

Furseth et al. show a guide vane comprising a main body 40 and a mounting base 46, the mounting base 46 being provided with formations (edges of grooves 70) which engage with cooperating formations 72, 80, 82 provided on the compressor 22, wherein at least part of the mounting base 46 is airfoil shaped (see Fig. 6) and at least part of the mounting base 46 projects outwardly beyond a surface of the main body only on one side of the vane (see Figs. 2 and 6).

Furseth et al. preferably make the airfoil 40 with compression molded plies, but do not disclose if the airfoil can be compression molded. The claimed phrase "formed by forging" is being treated as a product by process limitation; that is, that the airfoil is formed by forging. As set forth in MPEP § 2113, product by process claims are NOT

limited to the manipulations of the recited steps, only the structure implied by the steps. Once a product appearing to be substantially the same or similar is found, a 35 U.S.C. § 102/103 rejection may be made and the burden is shifted to applicant to show an unobvious difference. See MPEP § 2113.

Thus, even though Furseth et al. is silent as to the airfoil being forged, it appears that the airfoil of Furseth et al. would be the same or similar as that claimed; especially since both applicant's product and the Furseth et al. product are both airfoil shaped.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard Edgar whose telephone number is (571) 272-4816. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday, 8:00 am until 4:00 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Look can be reached on (571) 272-4820. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Richard Edgar
Examiner
Art Unit 3745

RE



EDWARD K. LOOK
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

